

## HOUSE RESOLUTION 245

By Briley

A RESOLUTION relative to the construction of Conservation Hall at the Executive Residence.

WHEREAS, the proposed construction of Conservation Hall in the front yard of the Executive Residence has caused a great deal of controversy; and

WHEREAS, Conservation Hall has been designed as a 14,000 square-foot underground facility, the main feature of which would be a 3,000 square-foot ballroom that would accommodate 160 seated guests; the facility would also house new meeting facilities and a commercial-grade kitchen; and

WHEREAS, this Body is not seeking to pass judgment on the merits of Conservation Hall, but during these times of fiscal austerity, the funding of a multi-million dollar capital project for non-essential purposes should be delayed; and

WHEREAS, State revenues for the first five months of fiscal year 2007-2008 were \$182 million below the budget estimate, and thus, the State of Tennessee will be operating with severely limited budgetary resources for fiscal year 2008-2009, and possibly beyond; and

WHEREAS, as our State faces significant budgetary constraints, it is imperative that the Conservation Hall project, no matter how worthwhile, should be postponed until such time as economic prosperity returns to Tennessee; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED FIFTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, that we hereby most fervently urge and encourage the Governor to re-evaluate his position and postpone the construction of Conservation Hall at the Executive Residence in recognition of the significant downturn in Tennessee's economy and the State's weak revenue collections this fiscal year.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an enrolled copy of this resolution be transmitted to the Honorable Phil Bredesen, Governor of Tennessee.

